- 1 HB228
- 2 195655-2
- 3 By Representative Blackshear
- 4 RFD: Financial Services
- 5 First Read: 20-MAR-19

1	195655-2:n:10/19/2018:KMS*/bm LSA2018-2657R1	
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8	SYNOPSIS:	Under existing law, state-chartered credit
9		unions are organized and regulated by the Alabama
10		Credit Union Administration.
11		This bill would clarify and codify the
12		federal charter parity provision to mean asset
13		liability management, including regulatory net
14		worth or capital management and composition.
15		This bill would authorize the Alabama Credit
16		Union Administration Board to appoint the National
17		Credit Union Administration as conservator of a
18		state-chartered credit union.
19		This bill would authorize credit union
20		supervisory committees to consist of more than
21		three members.
22		This bill would permit payment or
23		reimbursement of reasonable and proper travel costs
24		of a member of the board or any committee and one
25		guest per member traveling on official business of
26		the state-chartered credit union.

This bill would increase the meeting notice period prior to the meeting to vote and approve a merger plan of a merging credit union.

This bill would also expand the definition of an official who may serve on the Alabama Credit Union Administration Board to include a president, chief executive officer, or a person elected by the membership to serve as a member of the board, credit committee, or supervisory committee of a state-chartered credit union.

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TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Sections 5-17-4, 5-17-8, 5-17-10, 5-17-11, 5-17-22, as amended by Act 2018-470, 2018 Regular Session, and 5-17-55, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to state-chartered credit unions and the Alabama Credit Union Administration; to clarify and codify the federal charter parity provision to mean asset liability management, including regulatory net worth or capital management and composition; to authorize the Alabama Credit Union Administration Board to appoint the National Credit Union Administration as conservator of a state-chartered credit union; to provide that credit union supervisory committees may consist of more than three members; to permit payment or reimbursement of reasonable and proper

- travel costs of a member of the board or any committee and one 1 2 quest per member traveling on official business of the state-chartered credit union; to increase the meeting notice 3 period prior to the meeting to vote and approve a merger plan 4 5 of a merging credit union; and to expand the definition of an 6 official who may serve on the Alabama Credit Union 7 Administration Board to include a president, chief executive officer, or a person elected by the membership to serve as a 9 member of the board, credit committee, or supervisory 10 committee of a state-chartered credit union.
- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
- Section 1. Sections 5-17-4, 5-17-8, 5-17-10,

 5-17-11, 5-17-22, as amended by Act 2018-470, 2018 Regular

 Session, and 5-17-55 of the Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:
- 16 "\$5-17-4.

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- "(a) A credit union shall have all of the following
 powers:
 - "(1) To receive the savings of its members either as payment on shares or as deposits, including the right to conduct Christmas clubs, vacation clubs, and other thrift organizations within the membership.
 - "(2) To accept deposits of fiduciary funds if a member is the beneficiary, trustee, or personal representative and if the funds are part of the estate of a deceased member.
- 26 "(3) To make loans to members.

- "(4) To make loans to other credit unions, including
 credit union service organizations.
- "(5) To purchase loans from financial institutions,

 provided a purchased loan is of the nature and type that the

 credit union could have originated itself.

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- "(6) To make loans to a cooperative society or other organizations having membership in the credit union.
- "(7) To deposit funds in state and national banks, savings and loan associations, the accounts which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and in other credit unions.
- "(8) To invest in any investment legal for federally chartered credit unions in the state.
- "(9) To borrow money from any source not prohibited by applicable law and to give its note therefor; provided that the borrowing, in the aggregate, shall not at any time exceed the lesser of:
 - "a. 50 Fifty percent of its assets; or
- "b. The combination of undivided earnings, regular reserves, equity acquired in a merger, net income or net loss not already included in undivided earnings, and shares and deposits.
- "(10) To assess each member a recurring or nonrecurring membership fee.
- "(11) To exercise incidental powers as necessary to enable it to carry on effectively the purposes for which it is chartered and incorporated and other powers as are expressly

authorized by the Administrator of the Alabama Credit Union Administration.

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- "(b) In addition to any and all other powers heretofore granted to credit unions, any credit union shall have the power to engage in any activity in which the credit union could engage were the credit union operating as a federally chartered credit union, including but not by way of limitation because of enumeration, the power to do any act and own, possess, and carry as assets property of that character including stocks, bonds, or other debentures which, at the time, are authorized under federal laws or regulations for transactions by federal credit unions, notwithstanding any restrictions elsewhere contained in the statutes of the State of Alabama law of this state. These powers are limited to asset liability management including regulatory net worth or capital management and composition. No credit union can exercise any power which it claims only by virtue of the power being possessed by a federal credit union if the administrator issues a written order prohibiting a credit union from exercising that power.
- "(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter or any other state law, a credit union may offer any product or service that is authorized or permitted to any federal credit union as defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1752.
- "(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter or any other state law, the administrator may condition the exercise of any power upon terms and conditions

intended to ensure safe and sound operation of a credit union in the administrator's discretion.

3 "\$5-17-8.

- "(a) Credit unions shall report to the Administrator of the Alabama Credit Union Administration at least annually on or before January 31 in such manner and form as required by the administrator for that purpose. Additional reports may be required. Credit unions shall be examined at least every 18 months by employees of the administration or by other persons designated by the administrator. For failure to file reports when due, unless excused for cause by the administrator, the credit union shall pay to the State Treasurer five dollars (\$5) for each day of its delinquency.
- "(b) If the administrator determines that the credit union is violating this chapter, or is insolvent, the administrator may suspend operations of the credit union by issuing an order requiring that the credit union cease operations pending a hearing on the revocation of the certificate of approval, or the administrator may set a date for a hearing on the revocation of the certificate of approval without suspending operations of the credit union. If the administrator suspends operations of the credit union, a hearing on the revocation of the certificate of authority shall be held by the administrator if requested within 90 days from the date of the order requiring suspension of operations. If demanded by the credit union, the hearing on revocation of the certificate of authority, whether or not the administrator

has suspended operations of the credit union pending the 1 2 hearing, shall be conducted on the record by the administrator who shall also make findings of fact and a written 3 determination concerning revocation of the certificate of 5 authority. The determination may contain an order requiring that credit union to immediately suspend operations or 6 7 continue in effect a previous order requiring the suspension of operations. If the determination is that the credit union 8 9 is violating this chapter, or is insolvent, and that the 10 certificate of authority be revoked, and if, for a period of 15 days after the hearing, any violation continues, the 11 administrator may revoke the certificate and take possession 12 13 of the business and property of the credit union and maintain possession until the administrator shall permit it to continue 14 15 business or its affairs are finally liquidated through merger 16 or otherwise.

"(c) (1) The administrator may, with the approval of a majority of the Credit Union Board of the Alabama Credit Union Administration, issue a cease and desist order upon finding that the credit union or any officer, director, committee member, or employee has done any one of the following:

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" $\frac{(1)}{a.}$ Committed any violation of a law, rule, or regulation.

"(2)b. Engaged or participated in any unsafe or unsound practice in connection with the credit union business.

"(3)c. Engaged in any act, omission, or practice
which constitutes a breach of fiduciary duty to the credit
union.

"(4)d. Committed any fraudulent or questionable practice in the conduct of the credit union's business which endangers the credit union's reputation or threatens insolvency.

"(5)e. Violated any condition imposed in writing by the administrator or any written agreement made with the administrator.

"(6)f. Concealed, destroyed, removed, falsified, or perjured any book, record, paper, report, statement, or account related to the business and affairs of the credit union.

"(2) Any cease and desist order shall be effective not earlier than 10 calendar days after it is delivered to the credit union. The credit union or any person subject to a cease and desist order shall have 10 calendar days from the receipt of any cease and desist order to appeal to the Credit Union Board of the Alabama Credit Union Administration by serving the administrator with a written notice of appeal within the 10-day period. Upon receipt of a notice of appeal from the credit union, the effect of the cease and desist order will be suspended pending a decision upon appeal; provided that a majority of the Credit Union Board of the Alabama Credit Union Administration may order that a cease and desist order be in force and effect pending the decision on

appeal. A hearing of any appeal shall be held before the
Credit Union Board of the Alabama Credit Union Administration
within 60 calendar days of the notice of appeal and the
decision of the Credit Union Board shall be rendered within 30
calendar days after the conclusion of the hearing.

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- "(d) The Administrator of the Alabama Credit Union Administration may suspend from office and prohibit further participation in any manner in the conduct of the affairs of a credit union, any director, officer, committee member, or employee who has done any one of the following:
- "(1) Committed any violation of a law, rule, or regulation.
- "(2) Engaged or participated in any unsafe or unsound practice in connection with the credit union business.
- "(3) Engaged in any act, omission, or practice which constitutes a breach of fiduciary duty to the credit union.
- "(4) Committed any fraudulent or questionable practice in the conduct of the credit union's business which endangers the credit union's reputation or threatens insolvency.
- "(5) Violated any condition imposed in writing by the administrator or any written agreement made with the administrator.
- "(6) Concealed, destroyed, removed, falsified, or perjured any book, record, paper, report, statement, or account related to the business and affairs of the credit union.

"(7) Unless the administrator directs otherwise, the prohibition against participation in the conduct of the affairs of a credit union shall remain effective until it is rescinded by a vote of the Credit Union Board of the Alabama Credit Union Administration.

- "(e) A person subject to an order issued under subsection (d) may file an appeal in writing delivered to the administrator not more than 10 calendar days after the issuance of the order. Not later than 60 calendar days after the filing of an appeal, the Credit Union Board of the Alabama Credit Union Administration shall hold a hearing and not later than 30 calendar days after the conclusion of the hearing, the Credit Union Board shall issue a decision. The hearing shall be confidential.
- "(f) The Administrator of the Alabama Credit Union Administration, with the approval of a majority of the Credit Union Board of the Alabama Credit Union Administration, ex parte without notice, may appoint the Alabama Credit Union Administration or the National Credit Union Administration as conservator and immediately take possession and control of the business and assets of any state-chartered credit union in any case in which any one of the following occurs:
- "(1) The Alabama Credit Union Administration determines that the action is necessary to conserve the assets of any state-chartered credit union or the interests of the members of the credit union.

- "(2) A credit union, by resolution of its board of directors, consents to the action by the Alabama Credit Union Administration.
 - "(3) There is a willful violation of a cease-and-desist order which has become final.

- "(4) There is concealment of books, papers, records, or assets of the credit union or refusal to submit books, papers, records, or affairs of the credit union for inspection to any examiner or to any lawful agent of the Alabama Credit Union Administration.
- "(g) Not later than 10 calendar days after the date on which the Alabama Credit Union Administration takes possession and control of the business and assets of a credit union pursuant to subsection (f), officials of the credit union who were terminated by the conservator may apply to the circuit court for the judicial circuit in which the principal office of the credit union is located for an order requiring the administration to show cause why it should not be enjoined from continuing possession and control. Except as provided in this subsection, no court may take any action, except at the request of the Credit Union Board by regulation or order, to restrain or affect the exercise of powers or functions of the board as conservator.
- "(h) The administrator shall report to the Credit
 Union Board of the Alabama Credit Union Administration at
 least semi-annually on the condition of the credit unions in

- which the administration serves as conservator. Reports shall contain the following:
- "(1) The most recent income statement and balance
 sheet of the credit union.

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- "(2) Actions taken since the last report by the administrator in its role as conservator of the credit union.
- "(3) A detailed report of all expenditures, reimbursements, and other financial considerations paid out of the assets of the credit union to the Alabama Credit Union Administration or its designated agents during conservatorship.
- "(4) A business plan outlining necessary actions and timetables under which the credit union would remain under conservatorship.
- "(i) The Alabama Credit Union Administration may maintain possession and control of the business and assets of the credit union and may operate the credit union until the time as the following occurs:
- "(1) The administrator shall permit the credit union to continue business subject to the terms and conditions as may be imposed by the Alabama Credit Union Administration.
- "(2) The credit union is liquidated in accordance with the provisions of Section 5-17-21.
- "(3) The Credit Union Board of the Alabama Credit
 Union Administration votes by a majority of voting members
 that the Alabama Credit Union Administration shall relinquish
 possession and control of the credit union. Such vote shall be

held on at least a semi-annual basis while the credit union is held in conservatorship by the Alabama Credit Union Administration.

- "(j) The Alabama Credit Union Administration may appoint special agents as it considers necessary in order to assist the administration in carrying out its duties as a conservator under this section.
- "(k) All costs incurred by the administration in exercising its authority under this section and Section 5-17-8.1, including, without limitation, all expenses and legal fees incurred in exercising its authority or defending any action taken pursuant to its exercise of authority, and any appeal by any credit union or by any director, officer, committee member, or employee thereof shall be paid out of the assets of the credit union.
- "(1) The conservator shall have all powers of the members, the directors, the officers, and the committees of the credit union and shall be authorized to operate the credit union in its own name or to conserve its assets in the manner and extent authorized by the administration.
- "(m) After taking possession of the property and business of a credit union through conservatorship, the conservator may terminate or adopt any executory contract to which the credit union may be a party. The termination of any contracts shall be made within six months after the conservator has obtained knowledge of the existence of the contract or lease. Any provision in the contract or lease

which provides for damages or cancellation fees upon

termination shall not be binding on the conservator or credit

union. The directors, the conservator, and the credit union

are not liable for damages arising from or relating to such

executory contracts.

"(n) The administrator may appoint a temporary board of directors to any credit union subject to conservatorship.

"(o) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of state law, if the administrator determines that an emergency requiring expeditious action exists with respect to a credit union, that other alternatives are not reasonably available consistent with National Credit Union Administration precedent, and that the public interest, including the interests of the members of the credit union, would best be served by such action, the administrator may do either of the following:

"a. Initiate the involuntary merger of a credit union that is insolvent or is in danger of insolvency with any other credit union or may authorize a credit union to purchase any of the assets of, or assume any of the liabilities of, any other credit union that is insolvent or in danger of insolvency.

"b. Authorize a financial institution whose deposits or accounts are insured to purchase any of the assets of, or assume any of the liabilities of, a credit union that is insolvent or in danger of insolvency, except that prior to exercising this authority the administrator shall attempt to

effect a merger with, or purchase and assumption by, another credit union as provided in paragraph a.

"(2) For purposes of the authority contained in this subsection, insured share and deposit accounts of the credit union, upon consummation of the purchase and assumption, may be converted to insured deposits or other comparable accounts in the acquiring institution, and the administrator and the insuring organization shall be relieved of any liability to the credit union's members with respect to those accounts.

"\$5-17-10.

"At the annual meeting (the organization meeting shall be the first annual meeting), members of the credit union shall elect a board of directors of not less than five members, may elect a credit committee of not less than three members, and shall elect a supervisory committee of not less than three members, all to hold office for such terms respectively as the bylaws provide and until successors qualify. A record of the names and addresses of the members of the board and committees and the officers shall be filed with the Administrator of the Alabama Credit Union Administration not later than 10 calendar days after their election. If, however, the bylaws so provide, the board of directors shall carry out the functions and duties of the credit committee or may appoint a credit committee, in which case the credit union shall not elect a credit committee.

"\$5-17-11.

"(a) At the first meeting and at subsequent times prescribed in the bylaws, the directors shall elect a president. The president must be either a member of the board of directors or an employee of the credit union who is not a member of the board of directors. If the credit union elects a president who is not a member of the board of directors, the board of directors shall elect from their own number a chairman chair and one or more vice-chairmen vice chairs of the board of directors. The board of directors shall have the power, in accordance with the bylaws, to remove any officer who is not a member of the board of directors. At the first meeting and at subsequent annual meetings prescribed in the bylaws, the directors shall elect from their own number, a secretary and treasurer, who may be the same individual. To nominate a candidate by petition, the petition should conform to the requirements as specified in the bylaws. The bylaws will state the number of members required to sign a petition which can be as few as three members or more as stated in the bylaws. For natural person credit unions, the maximum number cannot exceed the lesser of one percent of the membership or 500 members. For corporate credit unions, the maximum number cannot exceed the lesser of five percent of the membership or 25 members. Candidates shall be given a minimum of 35 days from the postmark date to present a petition.

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"(b) The duties of the officers shall be as determined in the bylaws. It shall be the duty of the

- directors to have general management of the affairs of the credit union, particularly:
- 3 "(1) To act on application for membership.
- "(2) To determine interest rates on loans and on deposits; provided, that such loans shall be at reasonable rates of interest.
- 7 "(3) To fix the amount of the surety bond which 8 shall be required of all officers and employees handling 9 money.

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- "(4) To declare dividends, and to transmit to the members recommended amendments to the bylaws.
 - "(5) To fill vacancies in the board and in the credit committee in accordance with the bylaws of the credit union.
 - "(6) To determine the maximum individual share holdings and the maximum individual loan which can be made with and without security.
- "(7) To have charge of investments other than loans to members.
 - "(8) To establish the par value of the share.
- "(9) In the absence of a credit committee, and upon the written request of a member, review a loan application denied by a loan officer.
 - "(c) No member of the board or any committee shall, as such, be compensated. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for their his or her services to the credit union, providing reasonable life, accident, and similar insurance protection

shall not be considered compensation. Directors, officers, and committee members may be reimbursed for necessary expenses incidental to the performance of the official business of the credit union. Expenses may include the payment or reimbursement of travel costs for members of the board or any committee and one guest per member of the board or any committee that were reasonable, proper, and incurred on official business of the credit union, in accordance with written policies and procedures of the credit union.

"(d) Liability and indemnification of officers, directors, trustees, and members of the governing body of a credit union shall be the same as provided for a nonprofit corporation in Title 10A, the Alabama Business and Nonprofit Entity Code; provided, however, a credit union may not indemnify officers, directors, and members of the governing body of a credit union against actions brought in connection with willful violations of this title.

"§5-17-22.

"Any credit union, with the approval of the Administrator of the Alabama Credit Union Administration, may merge with another credit union, under the existing certificate of organization of the other credit union, pursuant to any plan agreed upon by the majority of each board of directors of each credit union joining in the merger. In addition to approval by the administrator and each board of directors, the membership of the merging credit union must also approve the merger plan in the following manner:

"(1) At a meeting called for that purpose, notice of
which purpose must be contained in the call, two thirds of
those voting may vote to approve the merger plan. Voting must
be conducted in accordance with the bylaws of the credit
union. The notice must be provided to the members at least 15
days 45 calendar days, but no more than 90 calendar days,
prior to the date of the meeting.

- "(2) After agreement by the directors and approval by the members of the merging credit union, the president and secretary of the credit union shall execute a certificate of merger which shall set forth all of the following:
- "a. The time and place of the meeting of the board of directors at which the plan was agreed upon.
 - "b. The vote in favor of the adoption of the plan.
- "c. A copy of the resolution or other action by which the plan was agreed upon.
- "d. The time and place of the meeting of the members at which the plan agreed upon was approved.
- "e. The vote by which the plan was approved by the members.
 - "(3) Such certificate and a copy of the plan of merger agreed upon shall be forwarded to the administrator, certified by the administrator, and returned to both credit unions within 30 days.
 - "(4) Upon return of the certificate from the administrator, all property, property rights and members' interest of the deed, endorsement, or other instrument of

transfer, and all debts, obligations, and liabilities of the merged credit union shall be deemed to have been assumed by the surviving credit union under whose charter the merger was effected. The rights and privileges of the members of the merged credit union shall remain intact.

- "(5) A copy of the certificate approved by the Administrator of the Alabama Credit Union Administration shall be filed with the judge of probate of the county in which each credit union's certificate of organization is recorded.
- "(6) This section applies to credit unions organized under the laws of the State of Alabama. Federally chartered credit unions may be merged into Alabama organized credit unions, under the same conditions as Alabama credit unions; provided, that the merger plan is approved by the National Credit Union Administration or private insurance program or carrier.
- "(7) Credit unions organized under the laws of the State of Alabama may be merged into federally chartered credit unions under the same conditions as provided in this section; provided, that the merger plan is approved by the National Credit Union Administration or private insurance program or carrier.
- "(8) Credit unions organized under the laws of the State of Alabama may merge a state or federally chartered bank or thrift into the credit union under the same conditions as provided in this section, provided that the merger plan is approved, if required, by the appropriate state or federal

regulator of the bank or thrift and federal insurer, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

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"(9) Credit unions organized under the laws of the State of Alabama may merge into a state or federally chartered bank or thrift under the same conditions as provided in this section, provided that the merger plan is approved by the resultant institution's chartering regulator and the federal insurer, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

"(10) A federal credit union may be converted to a credit union chartered under the laws of Alabama and a state credit union may be converted to a federal credit union by adhering to the requirements for the conversion of a federal credit union to a state credit union as specified by the Federal Credit Union Act, presently 12 U.S.C. §1771(a)(1).

"(11) A credit union chartered under the laws of another state may be converted to an Alabama state chartered credit union under state law and regulation. Conversion to an Alabama state chartered credit union shall be effective upon the written approval of the administrator. Notice of conversion shall be filed with the Secretary of State and the judge of probate of the county in which the credit union maintains its principal office.

"§5-17-55.

"(a) There shall be a Credit Union Board of the Alabama Credit Union Administration which shall consist of the administrator, who shall be an ex officio member and chairman chair of the board, and seven other persons, appointed by the

1 Governor, by and with the consent of the Senate. Four of these 2 persons shall be appointed from a list of nominees submitted by the Credit Union Board of the Alabama Credit Union 3 Administration, in consultation with the League of 5 Southeastern Credit Union or its successor organization, which shall submit not less than three nominees for any vacancy. Should the Governor determine that none of the first three nominees submitted by the Credit Union Board for a vacancy on 9 the Credit Union Board are acceptable, the Governor may reject 10 the three nominees and the Credit Union Board shall submit an alternative list of three nominees to the Governor from which 11 12 the Governor shall make the appointment. The remaining three 13 appointments to the Credit Union Board shall be made by the 14 Governor from a list of nominees submitted by credit unions at 15 large. No person is eligible to be nominated or appointed to 16 the Credit Union Board unless at the time of nomination or 17 appointment, the person is an officer, director, or manager 18 official of a state-chartered credit union and has at least five years' experience in the 10 years next preceding 19 20 appointment as an officer, director, or manager official of a 21 credit union. The position of any member of the Credit Union 22 Board shall be declared vacant by the Administrator of the Alabama Credit Union Administration if the member of the 23 24 Credit Union Board ceases to serve as an officer, director, or 25 manager official of a credit union chartered under the laws of 26 the State of Alabama. For the purposes of this subsection, an official of a state-chartered credit union includes the 27

president, chief executive officer, or a person elected by the
membership to serve as a board member, credit committee
member, or supervisory committee member of the state-chartered
credit union.

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"(b) The seven appointees by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate, shall serve for the terms designated by the Governor for each person upon appointment of the persons. Of the seven persons appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate, three persons shall serve terms expiring on February 1 of the first year following passage hereof, two persons shall serve terms expiring on February 1 of the second year following passage hereof and two persons shall serve terms expiring on February 1 of the third year following passage hereof. Successors shall be appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate, for terms of three years each, so that the terms of two or three of the seven appointed members will expire on February 1 of each year. An allowance for correction of terms may be permitted from time to time or as necessary. Upon the expiration of their terms of office, members of the board shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed and have qualified.

"(c) (1) If a member of the Credit Union Board of the Alabama Credit Union Administration fails to attend regular meetings of the board for three consecutive meetings, or otherwise fails to perform the duties devolving upon him or her as a member of the Credit Union Board of the Alabama Credit Union Administration, is convicted of a felony or any

other crime involving moral turpitude, or ceases to be an officer, director, or manager official of a credit union, the office of the member shall be declared vacant by the administrator. The office of the board member shall be deemed to be vacated on the thirty-first day after mailing of a notice to the board member that his or her position is being vacated unless the board member files an appeal with the Credit Union Board prior to the thirty-first day after mailing of notice. Except that no appeal is authorized if the member's position is declared vacant by reason of conviction of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude.

"(2) Any person who is notified that his or her position on the board has been declared vacant by the administrator, may, within 30 days after mailing of the notice that the position has been declared vacant, may appeal to the other members of the Credit Union Board by written notice of appeal received by the administrator within the time period.

"(3) Upon a finding of good cause for the failure to attend meetings or otherwise perform duties, or upon a finding that there is a compelling reason for reinstating the member, a majority of board members may reinstate the person to the position. When the member appeals to the Credit Union Board, unless reinstated by the board within 30 calendar days after appeal, the position on the board shall be deemed to be vacant on the thirty-first day after receipt by the administrator of the member's written notice of the appeal. The administrator shall call a meeting to hear the appeal within 30 calendar

days after receipt of the notice of appeal. The board member who has received notice that the position will be declared vacant shall have the right to present at any hearing dealing with the position being declared vacant, but shall not have the right to vote on any issue until he or she is reinstated by the Credit Union Board.

"(d) If by reason of death, resignation, removal from office, or otherwise a vacancy occurs on the Credit Union Board, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the Governor and the appointee shall hold office until the Senate meets and passes on the appointment. If the appointment is disapproved by the Senate, another appointment shall be made by the Governor, and appointments must be made in like manner until an appointment is confirmed by the Senate. Any person so appointed shall serve the balance of the unexpired term for which the appointment is made. The seven appointed members of the Credit Union Board shall be persons of good character. Five of the seven shall have at least five years' experience in the 10 years next preceding appointment to the Credit Union Board either as an officer, director, or manager official of a credit union organized under the laws of the State of Alabama.

"(e) An appeal may be taken to the Credit Union Board from any finding, ruling, order, decision, or the final action of the administrator by any credit union which feels aggrieved thereby. Notice of appeal shall be filed with the administrator within 30 calendar days after the findings, ruling, order, decision, or other action. The notice shall

contain a brief statement of the pertinent facts upon which the appeal is grounded. The Credit Union Board shall fix a date, time, and place for hearing the appeal, within 60 calendar days after it is filed, and shall notify the credit union or its attorney of record thereof at least 30 calendar days prior to the date of the hearing. The finding of the Credit Union Board shall be strictly advisory in nature."

Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.